

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DHAHRA 01405 081236Z

53

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 FEA-01 ERDA-07

AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07

FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01

PM-04 USIA-15 SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TRSE-00 ACDA-10 /118 W
----- 012336

R 081145Z MMV 76

FM AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5079

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

UNCLAS DHAHRAN 1405

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ENRG, PFOR, BGEN, SA

SUBJECT: MINISTER OF PLANNING EXPRESSES VIEWS ON US ANTI-BOYCOTT
LEGISLATION AND SAG DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

1. PREVIOUS WEEK, DURING VISIT TO INSPECT JUABIL PROJECT,
MINISTER OF PLANNING HISHAM HAZIR HAD EARLY-EVENING MEETING
WITH ARAMCO DEPARTMENT HEADS AND ABOVE. MAJORITY OF AUDIENCE
WAS AMERICAN, BUT GOOD NUMBER OF SAUDIS WERE PRESENT.

2. NAZIR OPENED MEETING WITH SHORT SITREP ON SECOND FIVE-
YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN. HE TOLD HIS AUDIENCE "PLAN IS NOT A
BOX" BUT A LIVING, CHANGING INSTRUMENT WHICH SERVES AS A GUIDE
AS COUNTRY DEVELOPS ITS ECONOMY. AFTER CLAIMING HE WAS NOT
TOO CONCERNED WITH MEETING TARGETS OF PLAN, HE COMMENTED THAT
THEY ARE REVISED CONSTANTLY AND PLAN SERVES PURPOSE
OF ONLY STATING GENERAL OBJECTIVES.

3. DURING QUESTION PERIOD AFTER HIS SHORT PRESENTATION,
MINISTER PROVIDED HIS VIEWS ON FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 DHAHRA 01405 081236Z

(A) AGRICULTURE -- NAZIR DOWNGRADED AGRICULTURE'S ROLE IN ECONOMY. HE INDICATED THAT THERE IS LITTLE LIKELIHOOD OF IMPROVED PRODUCTIVITY IN COUNTRY'S AGRICULTURAL SECTOR AND STATED SAUDI ARABIA MUST RECOGNIZE THAT SAUDI ARABIA WILL NEVER ATTAIN SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN AGRICULTURE. IT FOLLOWED, HE OPINED, THAT SAUDI ARABIA MUST PLACE ITS BETS ON INDUSTRIAL SECTOR TO PROVIDE FOR ITS FUTURE.

(B) INFLATION -- MINISTER DISMISSED MATTER AS BEING UNIMPORTANT AND STATED THAT GOVERNMENT MEASURES ALREADY BROUGHT TO BEAR ON PROBLEM WILL ADEQUATELY CONTROL SITUATION.

(C) US ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION -- SUMMARIZING CONVERSATION HE HAD ON HIS MOST RECENT TRIP TO US, NAZIR NOTED THAT NEARLY ALL USG OFFICIALS, CONGRESSMEN, AND BUSINESS LEADERS TOLD HIM PRIVATELY THAT THEY ABHORED ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION AND RECOGNIZED ITS POSSIBLE IMPACT ON US EXPORT PROGRAM. NEVERTHELESS, AS NAZIR EXPLAINED, NONE WOULD STATE HIS VIEWS IN PUBLIC ON ISSUE -- A SITUATION WHICH HE IMPLIED WAS COWARDLY. MINISTER ALSO MET WITH AIDES OF SENATOR RIBICOFF AND THEY CLEARLY STATED THAT ONE OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE RIBICOFF AMENDMENT IS TO CURTAIL US EXPORTS TO SAUDI ARABIA. NAZIR'S CONCLUDING POINT ON THIS TOPIC WAS THAT SAG WISHES TO BUY FROM THE US BUT IT HAS AMPLE ALTERNATIVES IN FORM OF EUROPEAN SUPPLIERS QUITE WILLING TO DISPLACE US IN SAUDI ARABIAN MARKET.

(D) PETROLEUM PRICES -- WHEN ASKED IF SAG FAVORS INCREASE IN PETROLEUM PRICES, NAZIR JOKED AWAY QUESTION BY EXPLAINING THAT EACH TIME THERE HAS BEEN A PRICE INCREASE, RIYADH IS DELUGED WITH DELEGATIONS FROM MOSLEM NATIONS AND OTHER LDC'S ASKING FOR HANDOUTS. CONSEQUENTLY, IT IS IN INTEREST OF SAG TO MAINTAIN CURRENT PRICES SO THAT IT CAN DO ITS WORK AND NOT BE INTERRUPTED BY LDC SUPPLICANTS.
LUCIUS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOYCOTTS, FIVE YEAR PLAN, LAW, PERSONAL OPINION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DHAHRA01405
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760415-1141
From: DHAHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761196/aaaagisv.tel
Line Count: 100
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: oatisao
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUL 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by oatisao>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 970926
Subject: MINISTER OF PLANNING EXPRESSES VIEWS ON US ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION AND SAG DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
TAGS: BGEN, EGEN, ENRG, PFOR, SA, US, BGEN, EGEN, PFOR, (HAZIR, HISHAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006